

NEWS RELEASE

Joseph E. Kernan, Governor Alan D. Degner, Commissioner

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Kernan awards \$134,716 grant to South Bend's Honeywell Aircraft Landing Systems

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. – Gov. Joe Kernan announced today that the Indiana Department of Workforce Development has recently awarded a \$134,716 Incumbent Worker Training grant to Honeywell Aircraft Landing Systems to train 190 workers.

Located in South Bend for more than 77 years, Honeywell Aircraft Landing Systems (ALS) first manufactured aircraft wheels and brakes under the Bendix® name in 1927. Today, ALS is a leading supplier of aircraft wheels, brakes and repair and overhaul services. ALS is a global organization with domestic and international service and support locations that serve more than 450 airlines as well as military services.

"I am pleased that Honeywell Aircraft Landing Systems shares the state's goal to continually enhance workforce skills, "said Kernan. "This training grant will help the company remain a leader in the aerospace industry, which is good for the company and its employees, and good for Indiana."

The aerospace industry has faced many challenges in the last two years. In order to remain competitive, ALS is investing in new processes and technologies, enhancing the skill base of the workforce, and improving relationships with its customers. (Again, I'd like more concrete evidence about this investment if possible, or to see the above sentence worked into a quote.) This training grant, which is leveraged by a \$1,369,353 match at ALS, will allow employees to participate in various training programs. One employee will earn a patent paralegal certification and 26 employees will earn ISO certification. The remaining 163 employees will attend one of three levels of training in enterprise resource planning (ERP) and receive certification upon completion.

"The state of Indiana is ensuring future growth at ALS with this training grant," said Peg Billson, Vice President & General Manager of Honeywell Aircraft Landing Systems. "This training expands our employee expertise in patents to protect our technologies, in ISO standards to ensure quality wheels and brakes to our customers, and in ERP systems to enable process efficiencies throughout our business."

All Indiana businesses are eligible to apply for Incumbent Worker Training grants. The grants are designed to create a world-class workforce in Indiana, through continuous improvement to the skill levels of Hoosier workers.

Through its various programs and initiatives, the DWD is charged with continually improving the Hoosier workforce by assisting companies to create new jobs and improve employee skills. The agency offers a variety of training and educational grants, partners with the state's 27 WorkOne Centers, administers the unemployment insurance system, provides labor market information, assists employers with preparing workers for layoffs and closures and operates a statewide job placement service.

For more information on this or other DWD programs, contact Jeff Harris at 317/232-3396 or visit the web site at www.workforce.IN.gov.

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